ther with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the Institute.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT-4134/87 for I (a) to (c)]

II. (a) Twenty-eighth Annual Report and Accounts of the Sports Goods Exports Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 1985-86, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the Council.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT-4135/87 for II. (a) to (c)]

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

श्री राधा किशन मालवीय (मध्य प्रदेश) श्रीमान्, मैं कल्याण मंत्रालय--हिमाचल प्रदेश राज्य में समेकित जनजातीय विकास परियोजनाओं का कार्यकरण के संबंध में अनुसूचित जातियों तथा अनुसूचित जनजातियों के कल्याण संबंधी समिति के बाइसवें प्रतिवेदन की एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूं।

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House resolves that the Rajya Sabha do join the Committee of both the Houses on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the term ending on the 30th April, 1988, and do proceed to elect, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, ten members from among the members of the House to serve on the same Committee."

The motion was adopted.

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of the Lok Sabha for the term ending on the 30th April 1988, and do proceed to elect in such manner as the Chairman may direct seven members from among the members of the House to serve on the said Committee."

The motion was adopted.

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Undertakings of the Lok Sabha for the term ending on the 30th April, 1988, and do proceed to elect in such manner as the Chairman may direct seven members from among the members of the House to serve on the said Committee."

The motion was adopted.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

I. Regarding the purchase of 155mm Guns from the Swedish Firm Bofors.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Arun Singh will make a statement on purchases from Swedish firm Bofors. He will first read the statement and then the discussion will start.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on the 17th April, 1987, several newspapers reported a Swedish radio broadcast on 16th April, 1987, that bribes had been paid to senior Indian politicians...

SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, on a point of order, Here it is mentioned "Indian politicians", but the news was not Indian politicians.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is not a point of order. Please sit down. Don't disturb.

SHRI ARUN SINGH:...and key Defence figures to win a contract which was awarded by the Government of India to M/s. Bofors of Sweden on the 24th March, 1986, for the purchase of FH-77B 155 mm Towed Howitzers.

While reiterating Government's categorical denial of this baseless allegation, I would like to place the following information before this august House.

In the 1970s the Indian Army initiated studies to identify a field artillery system to replace its obsolescent 5.5 inches guns, by undertaking a definition of its future artillery requirement and a search for possible system which could be inducted.

This resulted in a Philosophy Paper prepared by the Army in 1979, which led to the identification of the following basic requirements of the future gun system:--

(i) The system had to be of a truly new generation, incorporating futuristic technology;

(ii) Its range should be about 24 Kms. with standard ammunition, extendable to 30 Kms. with special ammunition.

(iii) It had to have burst fire capability;

(iv) It had to have a high angle firing capability.

In addition to these basic requirements, other vital elements such as mobility, survivability, system responsiveness and stretch potential were also identified.

Between 1980—82, the Army tried and evaluated a variety of weapons systems. After a paper evaluation of almost a dozen systems, six were actually tried out in this period. As a result of these trials and a subsequent General Staff evaluation, the Army short-listed four of these systems for the consideration of the Ministry of Defence. These had been offered by SOFMA of France, BOFORS of Sweden, IMS of UK and VOEST Alpine of Austria.